

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Vol. 22, No. 26

TORONTO 2, CANADA

October 25th, 1930

THE BIG
PARADE

WHITE SHADOWS

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE
THE
BROADWAY
MELODY

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYERS
HOLLYWOOD
REVUE

THE BIG
HOUSE

YEAR IN
AND YEAR OUT!

THE BIG \$2
BROADWAY HITS are

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER
**WAR
NURSE**
ASTOR THEATRE
ROBERT MONTGOMERY-ROBERT AMES
JUNE WALKER - ANITA PAGE

ZASU PITTS - MARIE PREVOST
Continuity by Becky Gardiner. Dialogue
by Becky Gardiner, Joe Farnham.
directed by Edgar Selwyn

PUBLISHED BY
CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED
259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2

A Greater JOHN GILBERT

—as charming as he was in "The Big Parade."

—as exciting as he was in his biggest never-to-be-forgotten hits!

Overnight he has become a greater John Gilbert of the Talkies by virtue of his thrilling performance in one of the big, he-man dramas of all time!

LEILA HYAMS
JIM TULLY
POLLY MORAN



with **WALLACE BEERY**

even better than he was as "Butch" in "The Big House"

SAM WOOD
director



from the
book by
Albert
Richard
Wetjen



METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

Canadian Moving Picture DIGEST

Established in 1915 for
Exhibitors

Subscription: \$5.00 yearly

Telephone: Trinity 1481

Cable: Ontocanada

Published by Canadian
Moving Picture Digest
Company, Limited

259 Spadina Ave. - Toronto

RAY LEWIS

Editor and Managing Director

Vol. 22, No. 26

TORONTO 2, CANADA

October 25th, 1930

The Canadian Film Probe



THE CANADIAN FILM PROBE has been precipitated in Canada owing to allegations made to the Government that the Canadian Motion Picture Industry is under the control of one company, the Paramount Publix, which operates the Famous Players Canadian Corp., and its subsidiaries.

So little comment has been made in the U. S. publications in connection with the matter, that in order to acquaint the Industry with what is occurring, we specify a few details relative to this investigation.

The Bennett Government has appointed Mr. Peter White, K.C., as Commissioner of this film probe, and co-operating with him on this Commission are several representatives of the legal fraternity, as well as certain other individuals, who have been making a study of film conditions in Canada for some time.

The appointment of Mr. White is the result of an attitude, which the present Prime Minister of Canada had taken, when as Opposition Leader, under the past government's administration, he brought up the issue of the Paramount Publix control of the Screens of Canada, on the floor of the House at Ottawa, several times.

The McKenzie King Government had been appealed to, in respect to taking some action, when the Paramount Publix control of Canada's dominant theatre chain became imminent.

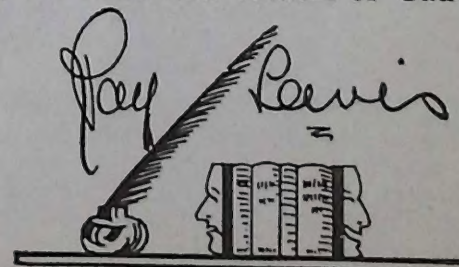
At that time, a Minority Shareholders' Protective Association was formed; about 800 shareholders, controlling approximately 100,000 shares, had sent in voting proxies, refusing to accept the Paramount Publix offer of four shares of Paramount Publix for five shares of Famous Players Canadian; and also stressing, in no uncertain terms, their refusal to have the Canadian control pass out of Canada.

Protest meetings of minority shareholders preceded the Paramount Publix offer, and at the annual meeting of the shareholders of Famous Players, the minority shareholders had counsel appear for them; and these interrogated the directors on an offer which N. L. Nathanson had made in respect to Gaumont British, the said offer being \$75.00 cash a share for Famous Players Canadian.

During this meeting, there were affirmations and denials of the said offer; and at that time, Mr. I. W. Killam stressed the angle of not wishing to sell to American interests, as the motive which inspired the directors to refuse the Gaumont British offer. Mr. Killam further added, that Lord Beaverbrook had told him that Gaumont British was Fox controlled.

At this meeting, Mr. Zukor also stated, that his company had no intention of buying Famous Players Canadian, and the press carried stories from other officials and directors of the company, presenting the American control of Gaumont British, and the desire of the directors of the Canadian company to keep the company Canadian-controlled.

What made the directors change their policy has never been explained to the press, nor to the minority shareholders satisfactorily. The public also has been left in ignorance.



RAY



RAY LKWIS

PRESENTS

FOLLOWING the formation of the Famous Players Minority Shareholders Protective Association, an offer was made by a Canadian syndicate to purchase Famous Players Canadian Corporation's shares at \$60.00 a share. This offer was refused by I. W. Killam, who held control; and the deal which gave Paramount Publix the shares held by Killam soon followed, although the public which had placed its shares in a trust pool, had subscribed to an issue of voting trust shares, which assured the Canadian control of the company for a period of ten years.

The Fox control of Gaumont British was denied by Lord Lee, in rather positive terms, Lord Lee being the Chairman of the holding company in control of Gaumont British. Other officers of Gaumont British denied the Fox control also, although the Fox interests had purchased a substantial interest in the British company.

IT WAS subsequently learned that the constitution of the Gaumont British rendered it impossible to give the company to foreign control, without amending the constitution, which is a parliamentary procedure; and that in the event that Gaumont British did amend its constitution so as to permit the control by foreign interests, it could not, under the Cinematograph Quota Act, be considered a British producing company.

However, the important fact about the sale of the Famous Players Canadian, was not the issue of American control, as cited by Killam and his supporters, for Paramount Publix is American, but that Killam had conspired to give Mr. Zukor the control of the Canadian company, presumably at a lower figure; and the refusal to sell to Gaumont British, because of American control, was but a pretext.

THE WHOLE business, involving the transfer of the Canadian company to Paramount Publix, at a much inferior offer, than the two offers previously made, incited the minority shareholders to resolve, and to instruct counsel to take action to protect their interests; but the shareholders waited to see what the Government intended to do about the Paramount Publix film monopoly in Canada, brought about by its control of Famous Players Canadian.

Close to fifty percent of the shareholders of Famous Players Canadian, refused to turn in their shares, and still hold them, awaiting the result of the Government investigation.

THE PARAMOUNT PUBLIX was warned that an investigation and litigation, possibly legislation, would follow its action in respect to Famous Players Canadian. But certain officers of Paramount Publix stated that this company welcomed litigation and legislation, for said one of the officers,

"The Government cannot take away what we have, and if it legislates against foreign control of Canadian theatres, this will protect us from competition."

Such a policy has been the one this company has always adopted. The Industry can go and hang, as long as Paramount gets what it is after; but it might occur to Paramount Publix that the Government may confine its hanging to Paramount Publix.

When N. L. Nathanson was Managing Director of Famous Players, he always advised Mr. Zukor against the control of Famous Players by Paramount Publix. "N. L." lived in Canada, he built up the Famous Players Canadian; and he knew why Famous became a dominant theatre company in Canada. He knew how to retain this position; and just how much the Canadian public could and would stand.

It is unfortunate for Mr. Zukor, that he did not heed the advice given to him, it is unfortunate that he, with his keen business sense, cannot understand that the Canadian public will never permit his company to retain a Film Monopoly in Canada.

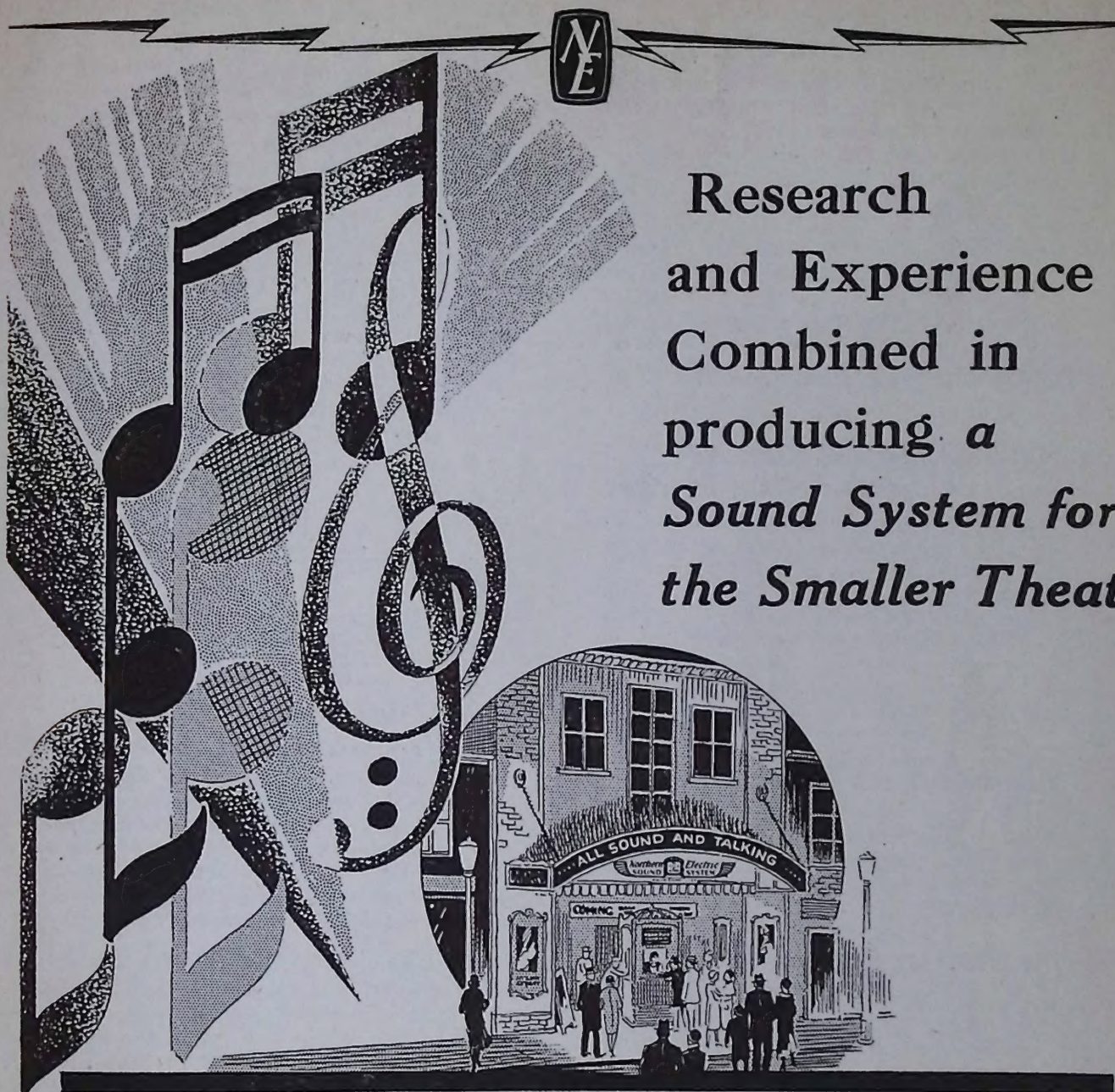
WHEN the present Government came into power, the Minister of Labour, Senator Gideon Robertson, examined a preliminary film report, with subsequent allegations of a film monopoly. The Order-In-Council, appointing Mr. White, was enforced, just prior to the departure of the Prime Minister, The Right Honorable R. B. Bennett, for the Imperial Economic Conference, London.

Under the Order-In-Council, Mr. White is empowered to inquire into, and make a report on the business of the Famous Players Canadian Corp., and subsidiaries; and also to investigate the business relationships between Famous Players and other distributing units in Canada, to determine whether there exists a combine of film interests detrimental to public interest.

MEANWHILE, it is interesting to note that, prior to the Government Investigation, there was no trade in Famous Players Canadian shares, but when the announcement of the investigation became public, the Famous Players Canadian shares appeared on the Montreal exchange, and had a rise in excess of the amount offered by Paramount Publix.

It is also interesting to observe that, notwithstanding the expiration of the date long since, for turning in Famous Players Canadian shares for exchange. Paramount Publix is still making the exchange for the Canadian stock offered.

(Continued on page 6)



Research
and Experience
Combined in
producing a
*Sound System for
the Smaller Theatre.*

OVER fifty years of research in the field of sound transmission is behind the new Northern Electric Sound Equipment for the smaller theatre. This apparatus is identical with the equipment used by the large city theatres.

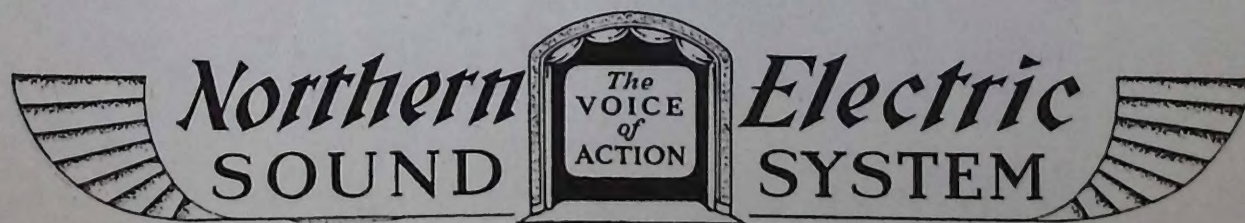
The new sound system is complete. Everything is included — thorough acoustical survey; complete installation by experienced staff; complete set of spare parts; full insurance on equipment; publicity helps, cuts and lobby plaque.

Only \$4,700 in easy payments.

Inspections are made regularly at a small charge of \$15.00 weekly. Our service men are at your command at any time of the day or night. There is no additional charge for this service. They have a motto which they jealously guard "The Show Must Go On."

Across Canada we maintain seven Spare Parts Depots for all emergencies. These are located at Halifax — Montreal — Toronto — Winnipeg — Regina — Calgary — Vancouver.

RESEARCH PRODUCTS SALES DEPARTMENT
537 CRAIG STREET WEST, MONTREAL



WESTERN ELECTRIC IN U. S. A.

M.P.T.O.A. Convention Philadelphia Nov. 10, 11, 12

The Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America will meet in convention at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel, Philadelphia, November 10th, 11th and 12th.

The banquet arranged for the evening of November 11th (Armistice Day) at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel will be a mammoth affair. General Smedley Butler, head of the Marines, will be one of the speakers. Mayor Harry Mackey of Philadelphia, will be another. George Pinchot of Pennsylvania gives a definite promise to be present.

It is expected that the Convention will be the largest in the history of the organization, with many of the most prominent leaders of the theatre branch of the Industry in attendance.

Joseph Schenck Denies Rumors United Artists Merger

Declaring emphatically that United Artists is not involved in any deals for change of control, or mergers with any other company, or that Howard Hughes or anyone else has bought into the film corporation, Joseph M. Schenck, President and Chairman of the Board, has returned to Hollywood after several weeks' stay in New York.

Mr. Schenck definitely spiked all rumors and reports that the present status of United Artists will be changed in any way.

Furthermore, the motion picture leader said his corporation is preparing to launch the biggest production schedule in its history.

He conferred with his brother, Nicholas Schenck, President of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, and other film leaders in the East, and told of optimism in the show world voiced by everybody.

Major Patton Returns Home

After a two months' tour of the British Isles, Major George A. Patton, director of the Ontario Motion Picture Bureau, and Mr. B. J. Bach, superintendent of the bureau, arrived home.

While on the tour they were filming educational pictures for the Government files, which are to be shown in the schools and the universities of Ontario. About 20,000 feet of the film were of English scenes, this includes Welsh, Scotch and British life, also many cathedrals and abbeys, and well-known historical spots.

Major Patton, while on the tour, spoke before the British Empire Film Marketing Board, arousing a great deal of interest. His subject was the work done by the Ontario Film Bureau.

Warner-Columbia Contract

Warner Brothers and Columbia Pictures recently announced the closing of one of the most important film contracts consummated this season involving approximately \$3,000,000 in bookings. Through the terms of this agreement Warner Brothers have contracted for the entire 1930-31 Columbia product of twenty audible features, to be exhibited in all the theatres of the Warner Brothers' circuit from coast to coast. As previously announced the deal also involves the company's short subjects amounting to an additional \$1,000,000.

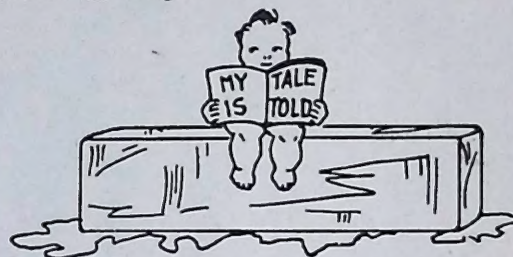
No less than 631 revisions were made by the Ontario Board of Moving Picture Censors during August, according to a report just published. Five features were banned outright.

Ray Presents

(Continued from Page 4)

It is a pity, that in the Paramount Publix organization of so many high-priced, high powered officials, there should not be the courage, nor the business sense to advise Mr. Zukor that he cannot possibly hope to keep the Canadian Film Industry under Paramount Publix control.

SURELY, there must be some one in the Paramount Publix organization, who has sufficient brain power and vision to realize, that Canada is even more British than England, that Canada considers its screens a national necessity and asset, that Canada will not tolerate the control of its Screens through a foreign monopoly; and that if Paramount Publix will not understand that the Government, and the Canadian people mean business, Paramount Publix will have to be taught this lesson!



Pathe News Special Shows Wreck of Giant Air-Liner R101

Pathe News issued a special on the wreck of the giant English air-liner R-101 on Monday afternoon (October 13) just a few hours after the sound film arrived in New York aboard the Leviathan. The boat docked at nine in the morning and the films were showing in the Broadway houses at two o'clock in the afternoon. Prints were also despatched throughout the country at the same time.

The special gives a comprehensive visual study — with sound and verbal description — of the twisted skeleton of the air-giant surrounded by crowds of curiosity seekers. Highlights are close-ups of the engine room — still smoking; the examination by French soldiers of the motor gondolas that escaped damage and the ensign of the R-101 which miraculously escaped slightly charred.

Pathe News 85 issued Saturday, October 11th, carried the first story on the R-101 catastrophe. This timely air-story showed the rebuilding of the big mystery airship, disasters that have befallen other airships and personality views of Major C. H. Scott, Lord Thomas and other victims.

Universal Acquires Three Broadway Plays

Three more Broadway plays, purchased last week, gave Universal a total of ten Broadway plays for this year's use alone. Ever since the advent of talking pictures, Universal is thoroughly convinced that the requirements of dialogue and situation, both comedy and drama, found more reliable and satisfactory exemplification in Broadway plays than in any other material for moving pictures.

Yesterday announcement was made by Universal of the purchase of "Apron Strings," the play by Dorrance Davis, which ran so successfully at the Bijou Theatre last spring. The other plays closed last week by Universal were "On the Up and Up," the current Longacre Theatre success by Eva Kay Flint and Martha Madison; and "Many A Slip" by Edith Fitzgerald, which ran successfully at the Little Theatre last spring.

What's Showing at Toronto Theatres

LOEW'S — Manager Jules Bernstein — United Artists' Gloria Swanson feature, "What a Widow." Snappy, whirlwind comedy, Gloria in her most frivolous mood.

IMPERIAL — Manager H. V. Knevels — First National picture, "Scarlet Pages." Court drama of great pathos, featuring Elsie Ferguson.

TIVOLI — Manager Jimmie Lynch — "Moby Dick," starring John Barrymore and Joan Bennett, directed by Lloyd Bacon. A Warner Brothers' production of distinct merit, predominated by outstanding performance by Barrymore.

UPTOWN — Manager R. E. Knevels — Playing Paramount's picture, "Follow Through," an amusing golf comedy with Nancy Carroll and Buddy Rogers.

SHEA'S HIPPODROME — Manager Jerry Shea — "The Big Fight," Educational picture with Lola Lane.

Lawrence Tibbett to Sing Spirituals

The glamorous personality of Lawrence Tibbett, Metropolitan baritone and film star, is to go into the glorification of the only type of genuine American folk song that exists. Negro spirituals will be among his songs in "The Southerner," his forthcoming picture at the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios.

Laying aside the swashbuckling type of role that has marked his screen work of the past, Tibbett is to appear as a Southern youth, a prodigal son, who returns home to a vivid dramatic situation.

Crooning melodies that voice the romance of the South will be among his most effective numbers. "Song of the South," "Childin's" and several others were specially composed for him by Herbert Stothart, and in addition he will sing some spirituals of his own selection.

Foreign Languages a Necessity

In a year or two every player on the screen will be playing in at least one language besides English according to Adolphe Menjou. Menjou adds that stars and players will master foreign languages in self defense.

Menjou himself has played roles not only in English, but in French, Spanish, German and Italian.

Perkins Electric Installations

Toronto office of Perkins Electric Company, Limited, report that during September they installed Hertner Transverters and Morelite Reflector lamps in the following theatres: Rex, Chateau, Classic, Kenwood Theatres, Toronto; Lyceum Theatre, Hamilton; Lyric Theatre, St. Marys, and the installation of Walker Fire-resisting sound screens in the Rex, Chateau, Classic, Kum-C, Kenwood Theatres, in Toronto; Lyceum Theatre, Hamilton; Gregory Theatre, Oakville; Lyric Theatre, St. Marys.

Parkdale Theatre Robbed

The Parkdale Theatre, Toronto, Ont., was recently robbed by some amateur safe crackers. The burglars got into the theatre by a side window leading into the office. They were able to knock off the combination of the safe, but luckily were unsuccessful in opening it.

After sliding down the theatre screens the "unwelcome visitors" went to the lobby, where a showcase was on display, filled with jewelry and other gifts, which had been placed there by the storekeepers of the district for advertising purposes. They ransacked the case, and made a very thorough job.

A Correction

In our issue of October 18th, we made a statement to the effect that the Canadian General Electric Company, composed of General Electric, Westinghouse, and Northern Electric Companies, had licensed the Radio Receptor Co., to build and sell power amplifiers in Canada.

This statement is incorrect in that the Northern Electric Company is in no way affiliated with the Canadian General Electric Company; and the Northern Electric Company has not licensed the Radio Receptor Company, under their patents, to build and sell power amplifiers in Canada.

WHY NOT THE BEST WHEN IT COSTS LESS?

Simplex Machines - Transverters
Walker Sound Screens - Premier Vacuum Cleaners
R V C Amplifier Tubes - Morelite Reflector Lamps
Reco Color Hoods - Reco Flashers
Service Lamps - Century Stage Lighting

All Sold in Canada by

Perkins Electric Company Limited

TORONTO

MONTREAL

WINNIPEG

Write For Our New Folder—Listing Up-to-Date Equipment

Sales Manager for Warner Bros. In Automobile Accident

E. J. Butler, Sales Manager for Warner Bros., Halifax, was the victim of a "hit and run" driver when his car was sideswiped by a motorist who did not stop to learn the extent of the damage done.

H. J. James of the Postal Department, Halifax, N.S., arrived shortly after the accident and immediately rushed Mr. Butler to the Victoria General Hospital, in Halifax, N.S. When picked up, Mr. Butler was unconscious, and the injuries he sustained were a fractured jaw, a badly injured, if not broken, nose, and front teeth torn from the gums.

Halifax Showman Dies

John F. O'Connell, Halifax theatre owner and also manager, well-known in Halifax theatre circles, after suffering for two weeks with a paralytic stroke, just succumbed. He was fifty-four years of age, and was just making plans to assume the managership of the Capitol Theatre, Halifax, N.S., which has just been completed. The new theatre was to be opened October 31st. Surviving him are his wife, two daughters and two sons.

Capitol Draws Large Crowds

The Capitol Theatre, Galt's new luxurious playhouse, has been drawing a very large patronage, not only from the city of Galt, but nearby cities and towns, also many country people.

That the patrons appreciate the excellent sound effects, up-to-date ventilation and all modern conveniences of the Capitol, is shown by the ever increasing attendance.

New Theatre for Westdale

Westdale, Ont., is to have a new motion picture house, which is estimated to cost about \$30,000. The permit for the building has already been issued and work has been started on the excavation.

(Special to Digest from Winnipeg)

En route to Calgary, Alberta, Col. John Cooper, President of the Motion Picture Distributors Association, Toronto, Ont., spent a few hours in Winnipeg, Man., Monday, October 20, visiting the fraternity in the Film Exchange Building, and having luncheon with the board. He plans to spend a day in Winnipeg later on in the month.

The beautiful and colorful garden areas of Manitoba, the pictures of which were taken by E. Pugh during the recent tour of the northern great plains section of the American society of Horticultural Science, were flashed on the screen in Winnipeg, Friday, October 18, for the members of the Horticultural Association, who were guests of the Manitoba branch of the Canadian Society of Technical Agriculturalists, in the Manitoba legislative buildings.

Dr. W. T. Hanna, President of the C.S.T.A., accorded Mr. Pugh a vote of thanks for his illustrated lecture, and remarked that horticulture in the rural points, such as was shown in the pictures, did a great deal towards perpetuating agriculture in the province.

A settlement in the civil action suit of Hartmier vs. Northland Theatres Limited, at the Pas, Man., was announced in County Court there October 11, after the case had been proceeding three days before Judge Bonnycastle. John Hartmier, a contractor of Roblin, Man., had sued the theatre company for \$12,000; and a final settlement out of court was made for \$6,000.

The action arose out of the building of the new Lido Talkie Theatre at The Pas. The contractor made his claim on the basis of extra work done on the building, while the defendants argued that the contractor was not entitled to the amount on the grounds of inadequate construction. The suit aroused considerable interest in The Pas, and a crowd of spectators attended the sittings.

FOR SALE

Pacnet Disc Equipment in perfect working order, now in operation at the National Theatre, Toronto. An ideal Equipment for a small house. Can be seen and heard any time at the National Theatre. Write above Theatre or phone Gerrard 1305.

Quality Products at Sensible Prices

Celco Sound Equipments, comprising superbly designed, perfectly constructed, thoroughly tested and proven Sound Equipment that gives perfect reproduction and pleasing tone from the smallest to the largest installation. Ranging in price from \$2,500.00 Track only in the Junior Equipment for Powers, Simplex or Motiograph DeLuxe Projectors up to \$7,500.00 for both Track and Disc using the famous Motiograph Sound Projectors.

Motiograph Projectors, Model F or H Mechanisms, Upper Magazines, Low Intensity Reflector Arcs, etc.

Simplex Projectors, Standard or Super Simplex Mechanisms, Upper Magazines, Lower Magazines, etc.

Strong Standard and Junior Reflector Arc Lamps, Vocalite Glass Bead Sound Screens, Cont-El-Arc Motor Generators, Lenses of all makes, Carbons, and the finest quality of anything you can ask for connected with the Theatre.

Drop us a line for full particulars, prices, terms, etc.

"Courtesy With Service"

THE COLEMAN ELECTRIC Co. - 258 Victoria St. - Toronto, Ont.



Show Business



After a very successful season, during which towns and villages in all parts of the three prairie provinces were visited, and the story of successful tree planting told to thousands of Western farmers by the moving picture, the work of the Canadian Forestry Association through the use of a railway lecture car in the prairie country was terminated this week in Winnipeg.

The car which is equipped to give a perfect moving picture show with synchronized music will be taken East to Montreal and during the winter will be prepared for even better service next year.

It is the property of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company but was used this year more largely on Canadian National lines, and both railways contribute liberally to its operations.

Alan Beaven, who has been in charge of the car for several years past, is still in the West where additional "shots" are being made for the picture which will be used next year. This will show in a continuous story the romance of tree and shrub planting on a prairie farm, a fierce wind storm on an open prairie where a young married couple are beginning life, the determination to fight the wind storm by shelter belts, the planting of the long lines of trees and shrubs, the transformation of the farmstead, as the trees increase in size and height; and finally the production of fruits, flowers and vegetables in great profusion in the shelter of the groves, and a happy old age amid these attractive surroundings.

"The programme which we have been giving in the car is highly educational, but we think as a picture alone, it is better than the average show in a rural village. Often when our car arrives there is a group of cheering children on the railway station platform, all of whom crowd into the car as soon as it is prepared for the show. The plan is to visit a new town every day, and to give two exhibitions, one in the afternoon and one in the evening. At one place by actual count we had 242 children in the car for a lecture, the average number of adults and children being 140. During the season we made 125 towns, held 229 meetings, travelled 3,235 miles, and addressed 32,000 people, with the object of deepening interest in the tree planting.

Robson Black is the manager of the association, which has 32,000 members and raises about \$150,000 annually for this work.

(Special to Digest from Ottawa)

The only legitimate theatre in the Dominion to remain unwired is the Princess Theatre, Toronto, owned by the Erlanger interests of New York. It was planned to make a talking picture installation but the idea has been dropped because of the probable expropriation of the theatre for a street extension.

To keep up with rival theatres in the matter of morning shows starting at 10.30 or 11 a.m., Manager J. C. Adams of Loew's at Montreal has adopted a policy of presenting a "revival" as an extra feature each week for the one performance starting at 11.15 a.m. The revived feature for the week of October 12 was "The Return of Dr. Fu Manchu." The admission price to

12.30 is 25c and morning patrons see a show lasting from 11.15 a.m. to 3.15 p.m., all different, if they want to—and many stick the four hours. The regular feature for the week was "Forward March," starring Buster Keaton, and there were also five acts of vaudeville.

For no less than 47 days during October and November, one double-feature combination consisting of "The Love Career" and "The Man From Wyoming" is playing 14 theatres of the United Amusement chain in Montreal, individual bookings as arranged by George Nicholas, general manager, being either three or four days. The complete schedule was listed in a special seven-column advertisement in the local newspapers as a "Prosperity Week" announcement.

Following the termination of the musicians' strike in Montreal, Norton H. Payne, popularly known as "Bunny" Payne, has returned as featured organist at the Palace Theatre. Payne's presentation is the only number on the program which is not on the screen.

Before "Whoopie" closed its fourth and final week at the Princess Theatre, Montreal, on October 17, Manager Joe Lightstone was honored by Vice-Regal patronage in the presence of Her Excellency, Viscountess Willingdon, wife of the Governor-General, who came from Ottawa, the Canadian Capital, to attend a performance.

Irving Shulman, proprietor of the Harriston Theatre at Harriston, Ontario, has leased the Grand Theatre at Fergus, from S. Fradella.

R. Besler, veteran exhibitor, has re-opened the Park Theatre, an attractive suburban house in Winnipeg, thus giving another indication that business is on the mend.

"Ingagi," the much-discussed jungle picture, has made its appearance in Canada at last—in Vancouver, B.C., on the Pacific Coast where the Canadian premiere was conducted at the Beacon Theatre, formerly the Pantages. Top price was only 50c, the feature being presented during the week of October 20.

The Roxy Theatre, last of the downtown silent film houses in Montreal, has at last turned talkie, Manager Charlie Lalumiere having installed a DeForest set. Lalumiere is regarded as the pioneer exhibitor of Montreal and he had sworn to remain "silent" believing there was a sufficient number of people in Canada's largest city preferring the silent screen to make the Roxy exclusively popular. Lack of silent product finally forced the issue with him.

Manager Howard Conover of the Imperial Theatre, Montreal, has joined the group of local exhibitors who have turned to French features by way of variety and also to cater to the large local French-speaking population. The first of the French films to be booked for the Imperial is "Une Femme a Menti."

Manager Conover is showing no favoritism because he played a British feature, "The Hate Ship," during the week of October 13 with fair success.

Round About the Studios



"Whippet," one of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's canine stars all dressed up to play in "So Quiet on the K 9 Front."

Martin Flavin is one New York playwright who has not permitted his playwriting touch to atrophy while in Hollywood, studying the new technique of talking pictures.

While doing the script and dialogue of William C. De Mille's new Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer production, "The Passion Flower," Flavin found time to write and produce two new plays.

Both of these, "Spindrift" and "Dancing Days," were presented by the Pasadena Community House, a leading unit in the so-called "Little Theatre Movement."

Miriam Seegar has been signed for the feminine lead and Charles Morton will depict an outstanding male role in "Dawn Trail," the fourth in Columbia's series of eight "Buck" Jones outdoor "Specials." The picture, a stirring, red-blooded narrative of the romantic West, is being brought to the screen under the direction of Christy Cabanne.

Three Warner Bros. specials are approved in the current issue of Endorsed Motion Pictures by Motion Picture Bureau of the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae. They are "Outward Bound," "Big Boy," and "Sweet Kitty Bellairs."

"Jungle Terror," latest of the Vagabond Adventure pictures released by Pathe, was made on the banks of the Rangcon River and features the workaday wonders performed by elephants in the jungles. The dramatic episode of this reel brings the audience face to face with the dangers of the India jungles when a python springs at the elephant upon which Tom and his servants are riding.

Erle C. Kenton, who was responsible for some of Columbia's most important productions during the past seasons, returned to the company's lot this week to direct "The Last Parade," a de luxe special production.

What's a foreign accent to Greta Garbo? In "Anna Christie" she spoke with a natural Swedish dialect. In "Romance" she talked with an Italian accent. Now in "Inspiration," her new Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer talkie, she will cultivate a French accent.

Paul Hurst has completed the second of his two-reel prize fight comedies for Tiffany, "De Wold's Champeen."

Directed by Frank Strayer, the supporting cast includes Nita Martan, Don Terry, Aggie Herring, Jack Kennedy, Eddie Boland, Charlotte Merriam, Adele Watson, Billy Bletcher and others.

Louis King, Columbia director, believes in thorough story preparation before starting a picture and for the past week, Director King has been working on the dialogue and continuity of "Vengeance," a Buck Jones starring vehicle for Columbia release. Actual camera work is scheduled to start within ten days. The story, an original by Stuart Anthony, deals with a bandit chieftain and a recluse minister in a California "ghost" mining town. "Vengeance" is King's fourth consecutive Buck Jones picture for Columbia.



Jimmy Gleason and Harry Sweet are aided by Slim Summerville (center) in one of the funniest sequences of melodrama, "Her Man," new Pathe special.

Danny O'Shea, former stage comedian of "Sally, Irene and Mary," and Pathe-Sennett comedy fame, is working as a technical adviser on Bill Boyd's new Pathe starring vehicle, "The Painted Desert" now being filmed in Arizona. O'Shea has spent the past four years in the vicinity of Flagstaff, Arizona, where his knowledge of that particular part of the country makes him much sought after by motion picture companies.

Olga Tschechova, the most famous star of the German screen, and Johannes Riemann, also famous in Berlin screen roles, arrive this week on the Europa en route to Universal City, where they will play with Tala Birrell in the German version of "The Boudoir Diplomat." Two famous Spanish artists, Fausto Rocho and Amelia Senisterra, have already arrived at Universal City for the Spanish version of the same picture.

Ricardo Cortez, brilliant star of many silent and talking films, has signed a term contract with RKO Radio Pictures, according to an announcement to-day by William LeBaron, vice-president in charge of production.

The role of Jonathan Harker in the movie version of "Dracula" seems to be a very difficult one to fill. First Lewis Ayres was cast for it, then Robert Ames, and now it is being played by David Manners, cousin of Lady Diana Manners. Manners is well known on the stage, having played leads in "He Who Gets Slapped" and "Dancing Mothers."

When Fifi Dorsay returns to Movietone City following her personal appearance tour, she will begin work as a featured player in "Charlie Chan Carries On," Fox film adapted from a novel by Earl Derr Biggers.

Mary Astor has begun her third role in an RKO Radio Picture. Following completion of "Sheep's Clothing" last week, she began work this morning in "The Queen's Husband," under the direction of Lowell Sherman.

Barry Connors, author of the plays "Applesauce" and "The Patsy," has forsaken New York to write screen adaptations and dialog for Fox Films in Hollywood. Mr. Connors' first assignment has not been announced.

Wallace MacDonald, one of the long-standing favorites of the screen, has been signed by Tiffany Productions to play in the first of the Ken Maynard series of western special features. MacDonald's work in all types of pictures covers many years. He was a great favorite in silent pictures. "The Midnight Stage" is the first of the Maynard series.

Harry Carey's old ranch, located on the Santa Clara River, just outside of Sagus, before the dam washed out during a spectacular break, is the scene of Big 4's filming activities these days. The beautiful San Francisco Canyon, a popular movie background, is coming into its own again these days.

George Hill, who made "The Big House," will direct "The Secret Six" and Wallace Beery will have a prominent role, while Marjorie Rambeau, noted stage actress, will have a leading feminine role.



June Walker and Anita Page in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's new war novel, "War Nurse," directed by Edgar Selwyn.

A Plain Statement of Facts Regarding British Pictures

Without blare of trumpets, without "bally-hooing" of any kind, British International Pictures Limited Feature Pictures have their entry into Canada and have at once taken their place among the best pictures of the season. Not only that, but they have established themselves as box office attractions of the highest class.

The trade press, newspapers and critics have been unanimous in declaring those already released to be talking pictures that deserve to be shown in every theatre in Canada and compare them favorably with the outstanding productions from the United States.

Regal Films Limited is proud to be the Distributors in Canada of British International Pictures Limited, not only because they are British, not only because they are features of the better kind, but because they are proving to be features that are drawing the people into every theatre in which they are shown.

As proof of the above statement just check up the business done by "Atlantic," "Hate Ship" and "Song of Soho," the features that have been released to date, and you will find they have been drawing larger crowds than many of the so-called "specials" produced on this side of the "Big Pond."

When you run British International Features, you not only are patriotic, you not only give your patrons good entertainment, but you are giving your theatre a business stimulant that will help swell your banking account.

Regal Films Limited

**Canadian Distributors for
British International Pictures**

Fifty Electric Light Names In Pathe's First Five 1930 Specials

**The Greatest Galaxy of Stars Ever
Assembled by a Single Company**

**Swing High
Her Man
Beyond Victory
Night Work
Holiday**

**Pathe Personalities Are the Talk of
the Entire Picture Industry**

**Pathe Pictures Are Distributed In
Canada by Regal Films Limited**